REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are presented for examination. New claim 11 corresponds to original claim 9, but is dependent upon claim 8. New claim 12 corresponds to original claim 10, but is dependent upon claim 11.

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested, and favorable examination on the merits in due course is earnestly solicited.

Any additional fees due to maintain the pendency of this application (except the Issue Fee) may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213 Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: July 25, 2001

Steven M. Gruskin Registration No. 36,818